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**AFGHANISTAN**

## ROAD UPDATE

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### Kandahar-Herat Highway

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the Kandahar-Herat Highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. Afghanistan’s Ministry of Public Works signed a contract for the Saudi-funded section and the contractor is mobilizing.

In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), 71% of the first layer of asphalt has been laid along with 40% of the second layer. In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues on 4A and paving is now in full swing with over 54% of both the first and second layer of asphalt completed; on 4B both the culvert works and placement of the crushed aggregate base (CAB) course are over 97% complete. Asphalt treated base (ATB) course and the second layer of asphalt have been laid. Placement of the final (wearing) course of asphalt has begun. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues alongside excavation and embankment work. Over 44% of the CAB course is now complete, along with 38% of the first layer of asphalt (ATB).

USAID incorporates capacity building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase the participation and commitment of Afghans. During this period, 75% of the project’s employees were Afghan nationals.



### Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections

- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5



Local boy watches asphalt paving on Kandahar-Herat Highway.



Afghan workers compacting earthworks for new causeway construction on Section 4 (August 2005).



Lunch served to laborers at worksite.

### Focus on Urban Roads: Bibi Mahro

Road pavement, geometric design and electrical design work is ongoing. Asphalt removal works, saw cutting of all asphalt along the existing centerline continues. The security coordinator has obtained the MOI security force for the project.

### Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow



## Provincial Roads Highlights

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

Provincial Road	Progress to date
Kabul-Gardez Road (122km)	Asphalt treated base (ATB) work is complete from Km3 -Km13, Km45 - Km52 and Km57 - Km61. Asphalt wearing course (AWC) overlay is complete from Km30 - Km45, Km44 - Km48 Km and Km71 - Km86. 16Km of earthworks excavation and embankment are complete. Side road drainage and site cleanup works are also ongoing.
Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35km)	Demining and surveying continues in the borrow pits area; main alignment is complete from Km0 - Km35. Road work design has been approved. Earthworks, excavation, subbase, and base course ongoing. 7.5 Km of 1 <sup>st</sup> layer of DBST complete.
Jalalabad-Asmar Road (122km)	Subgrade, subbase and 1 <sup>st</sup> layer base course is progressing. 15 Km of subbase and 5 Km of 1 <sup>st</sup> layer base course has been placed. 2 <sup>nd</sup> layer base course started. Surveying and design work continues between Km0 and Km51. Road excavation work on the main contract (Km30 to Km122) ongoing.
Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148km)	Second layer of base course has started and is progressing well. Laying of prime coat and DBST has begun. Completed 48Km of base and 22Km of prime in the northern section.
Panjsher Road (69.2km)	Section 1 contracting will be in two sections; drainage and pavement. De-mining of Section 2 is complete, but some quarry areas still being worked. Survey and design are ongoing; base camp construction continues.
Sheberghan to Sari Pul Road (54km)	Structural steel for bridge #1 and # 2 complete. 39Km of subbase material is complete to final grade. 52.5Km of embankment work complete with exception of all bridges. 19Km of DBST 19mm seal coat has also been completed. Steel pipe and reinforced concrete box culvert works ongoing.
Farah-Ring Road (70km)	Rough grading is 100% complete. Construction of the stone masonry retaining wall and ramp for the crusher plant is complete. Crusher-erection/assembly is near completion. Detailed road alignment cross-sectional survey ongoing. Embankment works ongoing at four locations.
Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49km)	The field Density Testing Team (FDT) is having trouble keeping up with the demand on the site due to only using sand replacement method. A nuclear densometer is needed to increase daily test production rate. Rough grading is complete and second layer preparation is ongoing.
Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5km)	Work in camp area ongoing. Demining of crusher area at the Sardeh Dam site is complete and continues towards Sharan. Rough grading towards Ghazni ongoing. Earthworks on sections of cuts, surveying and staking ongoing. Initiated subgrade placement trial.



Base paving on Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road at Km 104.



Paving and surface treatment at Km 122 Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road.



Contractor and Supervisor inspect the 1<sup>st</sup> layer of DBST on Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road.



USAID security and Demining Liaison Officer greets the Tirin Kot General

## Road-Related Security Incidents

- August 1, Kunduz Province, Kunduz Airport road: An IED exploded approximately 5Km south of the Airport. The target was believed to have been an international organization or staff member.
- August 3, Kandahar province, Zhari District: An IED detonated by a coalition forces (CF) convoy. The IED was fixed to a bicycle at the side of Kandahar-Herat road. Two CF soldiers were injured.
- August 6: One hostile action/threats against members of the LBG Team or affiliated personnel (i.e., subcontractors, MOI police relevant to LBG related activities) reported to USPI. USPI received a report that there is a threat of an attack on the Farah Road USPI Support Group. Movement was suspended for the group for the remainder of the evening and on August 7.
- August 14, Khost Province, Tere Zavi District: An IED placed in a culvert exploded as a candidate passed over the road. The candidate was not injured.
- August 14, Paktya Province, Cham Kani District: An IED placed in a culvert exploded and killed three CF soldiers.